Arming of LTTE by International Agencies

4376. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some international agencies were arming LTTE;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) There are reports of the LTTE getting arms from foreign sources.

(c) Government takes such action as it can to prevent arms reaching the LTTE.

Possession of Missiles by Tamil Tigers

4377. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Times of India' (New Delhi) dated the 4th August, 1988 under the caption "Missiles recovery worries IPKF" according to which Tamil Tigers are in possession of surface to air missiles; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to strengthen IPKF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Government have seen the news item.

(b) Necessary precautions and counter-measures have been taken by the IPKF.

Return of waste fuel Rods

4378. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item that appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 3rd August, 1988 under the caption 'Misgivings over Soviet N-Offer' wherein it has been stated that waste fuel rods will have to be returned to Soviet Union whereas in an agreement with us, India did not do so in the case of rods at Tarapur plant; and

(b) if so, the reasons for giving such unfavourable terms to Soviet Union ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The terms and conditions of an intergovernmental agreement on setting up of two units of pressurised light water reactors with Soviet assistance including the question of storage or return of spent fuel rods, are under the consideration of the Government of India.

Rising Debt Liability of Public Sector Defence Units

4379. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU ; Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that debt liability of eight public sector defence units has been rising ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it rose to Rs. 473.41 crores in 1986-87 from Rs. 416.63 crores in 1985-86 against the paid up capital of Rs. 568.46 crores and Rs. 432.29 crores respectively: and

(c) if so, the steps taken to reduce the liability ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) statements I and II are enclosed. (*See below*).

(c) Loans from Government are mostly drawn to finance new projects undertaken by the Defence PSUs. In growing concerns higher level of operations call for increases in both debt and equity. Efforts are, however, continuously being made to reduce the debt liability to the minimum by better working capital management and increased internal resource generation.

Statement-I

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of the PSU	As on 31-3-1986			
	Secured Loans	Unsecured Loans	Govt. Loans	Equity
Bharat Electronics Limited	4.86	97.57	52.00	43.00
Hindustan Aeronautics Limited	4.24	167.62	110.20	72.00
Bharat Dynamics Limited	..	4.17	4.17	15.45
Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd.	..	6.00	6.00	137.34
Bharat Earth Movers Ltd.	124.88	117.42	51.48	30.00
Goa Shipyard Ltd.	..	2.55	2.55	5.75
Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd.	..	82.33	77.57	40.90
Mazagaon Dock Ltd.	38.51	229.12	112.66	87.85
	172.49	706.48	416.63	432.29

Statement-II

(Rs. in crores)

	As on 31-3-87			
	Secured loans	Unsecured loans	Govt. loans	Equity
Bharat Electronics Limited . . .	4.35	127.77	64.89	54.00
Hindustan Aeronautics Limited . .	31.00	186.10	127.18	72.00
Bharat Dynamics Limited . . .	..	8.70	8.70	20.45
Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd. . . .	..	3.20	3.20	137.34
Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. . . .	134.38	139.37	66.16	30.00
Goa Shipyrad Ltd.	..	2.30	2.30	8.42
Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd.	10.40	100.31	84.97	449.00
Mazagaon Dock Ltd.	60.38	244.03	116.01	101.35
	240.51	811.78	473.41	468.46

Agro-climate Planning

4380. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has drawn up comprehensive draft guidelines for implementing the concept of agro-climatic planning to boost farm production; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission has drawn up a set of draft guidelines for agricultural planning at the agro-climatic regional level as a framework for the work to be undertaken by the 15 Zonal Planning Teams set up it.

(b) Since the basic rationale for agricultural development planning at the agro-climatic regional level stems from the act that agricultural planning by a centralised agency is rendered loss effective because of the large regional diversities, the draft guidelines are indicative in nature. Some of the important approaches and issues highlighted in the draft guidelines are as under :—

(i) While drawing up regional Plans, advantage is to be taken of the existing body of research stiudes and data which could enable the identification of both the growth factors and hurdles to agricultural development.

(ii) Optimum land use planning based on topography, soil characteristics, irrigability classification, profitability potential indicators, etc. would form the basis for recommending cropping patterns and non-crop base activities such as dairying, animal husbandry, pisciculture and farm forestry.

(iii) An assessment is to be made of the available technology back-up, as well as the gaps to be filled